



# G-5's "Eye on AMC"

## U.S. Army Materiel Command

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### Field gear issued to deploying Soldiers

U.S. Army Europe Soldiers scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom are being issued the latest in field gear through the Rapid Fielding Initiative.

RFI is run by the Program Executive Office Soldier and the Army Materiel Command Field Support Brigade – Europe. Together, they serve as the "readiness bridge" linking America's arsenal to USAREUR's Soldiers.

The Army Chief of Staff initiative identifies equipment deploying Soldiers especially need. The equipment enhances the individual Soldier's mobility, lethality, level of force protection, and provides mission essential equipment and individual weapons' optics.

To date, 3,700 Soldiers from USAREUR units have received the latest in field gear: the Advanced Combat Helmet, improved desert boots, moisture wicking undergarments, knee and elbow pads, weapons, and add-ons such as close-combat optics.

The majority of the equipment arrived just after Christmas, and by Jan. 5, had started moving into Soldiers' hands, according to Gary James, site manager of AMC FSB-Europe's Germersheim Staging Activity.

### Picatinny-based team demonstrates world's first GPS-guided artillery projectile

A joint U.S and Swedish development team based at Picatinny Arsenal recently fired the world's first guided artillery projectiles using global satellite positioning technology.

The 155 mm projectiles used global positioning satellite and Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems, known as MEMS, to guide to within 3.4 and 6.9 meters of a target located 20 kilometers from the firing site, according to Lt. Col. William Cole, product manager for the Army's Excalibur Program.

Cole said that one Excalibur round was fired from the new Joint Lightweight 155 mm Howitzer, and the other round was fired from an M284 Paladin gun tube, both using a Picatinny-developed Modular Artillery Charge System 4, known as MACS 4, propelling charge.

"These tests mark a key milestone toward the fielding of Excalibur in conjunction with the M777 Joint Lightweight Howitzer in fiscal year 2006," Cole said. The M777 and Excalibur are slated for delivery to a Stryker brigade in the 25th Infantry Division.

Excalibur's accuracy is expected to reduce collateral damage and make gun artillery a force multiplier for commanders on the ground. When fielded, Excalibur will deliver a variety of lethal payloads to targets up to 40 kilometers away when fired from a 39-caliber howitzer.

The program, which is a cooperative development effort between the U.S. and Swedish governments, is a key part of transforming cannon artillery to provide responsive precision-strike capability.

### Did you know...

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, on behalf of U. S. Army Soldier System Center, Natick, Mass., announced its intentions to negotiate and award a sole source purchase order to Armor Works, Inc. of Tempe, Ariz., for 200 samples of ceramic plates for testing and evaluation. There are specific design features engineers would like to examine to determine the level of protection the plates provide against various threats. Armor Works is providing tiles in varying materials, thickness and dimensions for the test with the stipulation that they meet all current weight and dimensional requirements.